

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Lolayekar, Santosh C., et al.

Serial No. 10/051,396

Group Art Unit: 2616

Filed: January 18, 2002

Examiner: Grey, Christopher

Title: Virtualization in a Storage System

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**Request to Withdraw Final Rejection**  
**As Being Premature**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

For the reasons below, it is respectfully submitted that the Final Rejection in the Office Action of 11/02/2007 is premature and improper, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the finality of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In particular, the Final Rejection fails to comply with the requirements of M.P.E.P. §§ 706.07 – 706.07(a) because it introduces new grounds of rejections of Claims 34-35 that were not necessitated by applicant's amendment of the claims.